

January 18, 2002

Ms. Renata Hesse Antitrust Division Department of Justice 601 D Street, NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

As a user of Microsoft products, I am pleased to learn that a settlement has been reached between the federal government and Microsoft in the antitrust lawsuit. This settlement, protects consumers, yet also encourages the high tech industry's freedom to innovation.

Instead of wasting precious time and resources (dollars!) on dealing with lawsuits, time is better spent developing new programs. This settlement would allow such activity.

The settlement is good for consumers; the nations economy and the high tech industry. I support this settlement, and urge you to accept the consent decree.

wherly & walton